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NAUHEIM CIRCLE BREAKS WITH EAST GERMAN COMMUNISTS;
ARTISTS NAMED TO GERMAN ACADEMY OF ARTS

LAST GROUP TO ATTEMPT MEDIATION -- Die Tat, No 89, 1 Apr 50

The Berlin correspondent of Die Tat, a Swiss daily, reported on 31 March that differences arose between Prof Ulrich Noack, leader of the Nauheim Circle, and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) in the course of a speech given by the former in Soviet Zone Germany, which led to Noack's request that the discussions be discontinued.

Both sides maintained an evasive attitude regarding a resumption of the discussions at a later date.

This marks the end of the last nonpartisan political group whose foremost aim had been mediation between East and West Germany.

The apparent reason for the break was a letter from a resident of Soviet Zone Germany, which was quoted by Professor Noack in the course of the discussion. The tenor of this letter was plainly against any coming to terms with Communism. This was looked upon as a provocation by the executive body of the assembly. In the debate which followed, Professor Steiniger (fmu), SED member, demanded that his colleague participate in the Salzgitter demonstrations "as proof that he is not a British agent."

In an interview with Der Kurier /French licensed/, Noack declared that neither the National Front nor the SED had ever made the slightest effort to aid him in bringing about agreement. On the occasion of his last speech, the professor stated that he had proposed, on the strength of a suggestion made during the discussion, that a plebiscite be held in East Germany to determine whether it was the people's wish to participate in an all-German election of a National Assembly. He also proposed that the results of the 1946 October elections be used as a basis for appointing deputies to an all-German National Assembly. At that time the SED won 51 percent of all votes cast in the Soviet Zone of Germany. This proposal was opposed by the SED, because Noack had assumed that the LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) and the CDU (Christian Democratic Party), which at the time of the 1946 elections were still independent parties, would also have the right to avail themselves of the seats to which they were entitled.

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Professor Noack was of the opinion that a civil-war psychosis is threatening to develop at strategic points on "the two fronts." He stated: "From very open remarks, made to me by a leading East German personality, I gather that the SED is playing with the idea of forced riots in West Germany, leading to intervention by East Germany. It is felt that Soviet help will not even be needed in this connection. My informant made special references to Mao Tse-tung, as if the latter's policy in China might serve as an example for Germany."

APPOINTS PROMINENT ARTISTS REGULAR MEMBERS OF ACADEMY -- Volksstimme, No 73, 27 Mar 50

During the ceremonies celebrating the opening of the German Academy of Arts, Wilhelm Pieck, President of the German Democratic Republic, appointed the following prominent artists as regular members of the academy:

Johannes Becher, author; Berthold Brecht, poet; Max Butting, composer; Prof Heinrich Ehmsen, painter; Prof Hanns Eisler, composer; Erich Engel, theatrical director; Prof Ottmar Gerster, composer; Bernhard Kellermann, author; Wolfgang Langhoff, manager; Ernst Legal, manager; Prof Max Lingner, painter; Hans Marchwitza, author; Prof Ernst Meyer, musicologist; Gerda Mueller, actress; Prof Otto Nagel, painter; Frau Palucca (fnu), dancing instructor; Prof Otto Pankok, painter; Anna Seghers, author; Prof Gustav Seitz, sculptor; Prof Heinrich Tessenow, architect; Arnold Zweig, poet.

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